

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A-method, method for removing entry of a device from a computer system, said method comprising:

searching configuration data for an entry for a device with an unknown type not properly identified by the system; and

removing the entry for the device with the unknown type from the configuration data.

(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 determining a vendor of the device-with the unknown type;
 searching subkeys in the configuration data for all devices associated with the

deleting keys associated with the devices associated with the vendor.

- (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 modifying an initialization file to remove device information.
- (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 deleting files identified in a file list.

vendor; and

- 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the deleting element further comprises:
 - saving a backup copy of the files prior to deletion.
- 6. (Currently Amended) A-method, method for removing entry of an unknown device from a computer system, said method comprising:

searching a registry for a USB (Universal Serial Bus) printer-with an unknown description which is not properly identified by the computer system; and removing an entry for the printer-with the unknown description from the registry.

- 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising: determining a vendor of the printer; searching subkeys in the registry for all printers associated with the vendor; and deleting keys for all the printers associated with the vendor.
- (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
 clearing load, run, and device lines from an initialization file.
- (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
 removing a devices section and a printerports sections from an initialization file.

10. (Currently Amended) A-signal-bearing medium computer program in a computer readable medium, said program comprising instructions, wherein the instructions when executed-comprise for:

deleting entries in a configuration file for all devices with an unknown description not properly identified by a computer system executing the computer program;

scanning subkeys in the configuration file for a device entry associated with a selected vendor; and

removing keys from the configuration file, wherein the keys are associated with the device entry without a user manually deleting the keys.

11. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium-computer program of claim 10, wherein the instructions further comprise:

removing references associated with the device from an initialization file.

12. (Currently Amended) The signal bearing medium computer program of claim 10, wherein the instructions further comprise:

deleting files identified in a file list.

13. (Currently Amended) A computer, comprising:

a processor; and

storage comprising instructions executable on the processor, wherein the instructions when executed comprise executable for:

detecting devices attached to the computer,

identifying the attached devices as unknown when drivers for the attached devices are not present,

installing device drivers, and
deleting entries in a configuration file for all devices—with an unknown
description which are not properly identified by the computer.

- 14. (Original) The computer of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise: scanning subkeys in the configuration file for a device entry associated with a selected vendor.
- 15. (Original) The computer of claim 14, wherein the instructions further comprise: removing keys from the configuration file, wherein the keys are associated with the device entry.
- 16. (Original) The computer of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise: modifying an initialization file to remove information associated with the device.
- 17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for removing a registry key associated with a predetermined device of a computer system without a user manually searching for the registry key; and

means for modifying a configuration file to indicate removal of the predetermined device from the computer system without a user manually modifying the configuration file,

wherein the predetermined device is removed from the computer system so as to not interfere with a subsequent device installation.

- 18. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein said removing means includes means for removing registry keys according to a vendor of the predetermined device.
- 19. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, said removing means removing at least one registry key selected from a list of registry keys consisting of:

HKEY LOCAL MACHINE\enum\device bus\

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\device function\Environments\Windows 4.0\Drivers

HKEY__LOCAL_MACHINE\System\currentcontrolset\control\device function\monitors

 $\label{local_MACHINE} HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE \system \current Control \system \current Control \system \$

KEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\device function\device type

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Config\0001\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\
device function\device type

 $\label{local_machine} \label{local_machine} HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE \label{local_machine} System \label{local_machine} Current Control Set \label{local_machine} Set \label{local$

where device bus indicates a type of bus the predetermined device uses to couple to the computer system, device function indicates a function the predetermined devices provides, and device type indicates a group classification of the predetermined device.

- 20. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, said modifying means modifying the configuration file, wherein the configuration file is selected from a list consisting of: win.ini, windows.inf, windows\system, and windows\system32.
- 21. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, said removing means removing at least one registry key, wherein the at least one register key is selected from a list of registry keys consisting of:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\enum\device bus\

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\device function\Environments\Windows 4.0\Drivers

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\currentcontrolset\control\device function\monitors

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\device function\Ports

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\device function\device type

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Config\0001\System\CurrentControlSet\Control\
device function\device type

 $\label{local_machine} \label{local_machine} HKEY__LOCAL_MACHINE \label{local_machine} System \label{local_machine} \\ Class, \label{local_machine} \label{local_machine} LOCAL_MACHINE \label{local_machine} \\ NEVERTIES \label{local_machine} \\ NE$

where the device bus indicates a type of bus the predetermined device uses to couple to the computer system, the device function indicates a function the predetermined devices provides, and the device type indicates a group classification of the predetermined device, and the modifying means modifying at least one of the following configuration files: win.ini, windows.inf, windows\system, and windows\system32.

- 22. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, the modifying means modifying a win.ini file by clearing at least one or more of following lines in the win.ini file associated with the predetermined device: load=, run=, device=lines, and at least one or more of the following sections of the win.ini file: devices and deviceports sections.
- 23. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, said removing means being configured by one or more of the following: software stored on an information storage medium and loaded onto the computer system, software downloaded onto the computer system via a network, and software instructions executed by a remote machine coupled to the computer system via a network.
- 24. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 17, said modifying means being configured by one or more of the following: software stored on an information storage medium and loaded onto the computer system, software downloaded onto the computer system via a network, and software instructions executed by a remote machine coupled to the computer system via a network.

- 25. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 21, the removing means being configured by one or more of the following: software stored on an information storage medium and loaded onto the computer system, software downloaded onto the computer system via a network, and software instructions executed by a remote machine coupled to the computer system via a network.
- 26. (Original) An apparatus as claimed in claim 21, said modifying means being configured by one or more of the following: software stored on an information storage medium and loaded onto the computer system, software downloaded onto the computer system via a network, and software instructions executed by a remote machine coupled to the computer system via a network.
- 27. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said searching is conducted by the computer system using executable computer code without a user manually searching the configuration data.
- 28. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein said searching of a registry is conducted by the computer system using computer executable code without a user manually searching the registry.
- 29. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the device is considered to be not properly identified by the system when the device is:
 - (i) not identified by the system,

- (ii) not completely recognized by the system, or
- (iii) only identified as a generic device by the system.
- 30. (New) A method a claimed in claim 6 wherein the printer is considered to be not properly identified by the computer system when the system cannot identify the printer at all, only partially recognizes the printer, or only recognizes the printer as a generic device.
- 31. (New) The computer program of claim 10 wherein the devices are considered to be not properly identified when the devices are;
 - (i) not identified by the system,
 - (ii) not completely recognized by the system, or
 - (iii) only identified as a generic device by the system.
- 32. (New) The computer of claim 13 wherein the devices are considered to be not properly identified when the devices are:
 - (i) not identified by the computer,
 - (ii) not completely identified by the computer, or
 - (iii) only identified as generic devices by the computer.